AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

43. (Amended) A compound according to claim 6, comprising the amino acid sequence KQRQNKPPSKPNNDFHFEVFNFVPCSICG (SEQ ID NO:39), wherein the cysteine residues are derivatized with acetamidomethyl.

Please amend claims 43 and 44 as follows, without prejudice or disclaimer.

44. (Amended) A compound according to claim 6, consisting of acetyl-KQRQNKPPSKPNNDFHFEVFNFVPCSICGAmide (SEQ ID NO:39), wherein the cysteine residues are derivatized with acetamidomethyl.